



## ANGRY WATERS ARE SUBSIDING

### RAINS HAVE CEASED AND WORST IS NOW OVER

Damage to Crops and Property From Heavy Flood  
In Umatilla County is Estimated to  
Be Very Great.

### PENDLETON AND WALLA WALLA IN DARKNESS

REPORTS LATE LAST NIGHT SHOW LOSS TO PROPERTY WILL RUN  
VERY HIGH—RAILROADS SUFFER SEVERELY AND ALFALFA  
IS ALL DESTROYED—NO LOSS OF LIFE IS REPORTED  
—NO TRAINS ARE RUNNING.

PENDLETON, May 30.—From appearance the flood has reached its worst stage and will now subside. It has ceased raining at Pendleton and the sky is clearing, showing the storm is over. Telegraph wires are down and it is impossible to hear from Weston, but it is rumored the damage amounts to about \$20,000. If this is true it is safe to predict an equal loss at Milton and Bingham Springs and probably at Echo, besides severe damage to several smaller towns. Railroad communication is badly tangled and nearly all the bridges and some of the tracks between Umatilla and Bingham Springs is injured. East of here it is a difficult task to repair the damage, but the line to Portland will be open in a short time. The wheat crop, except in the high lands, is badly damaged, but the worst sufferers are the alfalfa and dairies and garden patches. Unless there is another rise in the river Pendleton is in no danger. Advice tonight state that the power plant on the little Walla Walla river, near Milton is wrecked. This plant furnished light and power for Pendleton and all the intermediate towns between here and Milton as well, and the loss is \$30,000. It will be two months before it can be rebuilt. The crops in Umatilla county are ruined, and there is great danger that the big irrigation dam of the little Walla Walla Irrigation Company will go out and wreck the project.

**Waters Subsidging.**  
WALLA, WALLA, May 30.—Although the rain has ceased falling and the city is in darkness, normal conditions are being resumed. The rain stopped during the afternoon and since 4 o'clock the waters of Mill creek have fallen four feet, and it is believed all danger is

passed. The estimated damage in Walla Walla county is along a quarter of a million, the principal individual sufferer being the Northwestern Light & Power Company which loses \$50,000, and whose plant can not be repaired in six weeks. The estimated damage to crops is very great, and unless it is greatly exaggerated the loss will run into hundreds of thousands of dollars. Reports from Milton, Prescott and neighboring towns all report heavy damage. The railroads are heavy losers, much track is washed out and the bridges destroyed. No loss of life is reported.

### COUNTY ASSESSORS TO CONVENE AT ALBANY

ALBANY, Ore., May 30.—A conference of the County Assessors of Western Oregon will be held in Albany June 11, to agree upon uniform rates of assessment for this year's roll. The main subject to be considered will be the rate of assessment for the Southern Pacific road-bed and rolling stock, and all assessors in whose counties track is located are expected to be present.

Practically all of the counties of the western part of the state will adopt the full valuation plan of assessment this year and an effort will be made to secure uniform schedules along all lines in all the counties. The conference will thus be one of considerable importance.

### HIT WRONG MAN.

GUTHRIE, O. T., May 30.—A pistol duel in the main street of Enid tonight Robert White, a bystander, was killed and Robert Johnson and Fred Capers, principals were wounded. Johnson escaped the officers and has not been captured. The town is greatly excited.

### BATTLESHIP ASHORE.

DAVENPORT, England, May 30.—The naval authorities are in great anxiety for the battleship Montague which went ashore today on Lundy Island, to be refloated. The ship was only three years old. Lundy Island was always regarded as extremely dangerous. The cruiser Aeolus is going at full speed to the Montague's assistance and the battleship Albermarle has been picked up by wireless and ordered to proceed to the scene of the wreck.

All members of the crew were saved, but several had their limbs broken or were seriously injured. It is reported something in the nature of a panic occurred.

### ONLY FOUR SURVIVE.

CONCEPCION, Chile, May 30.—The British ship Lismore, from Melbourne, April 21, for Coronel, was wrecked at Santa Maria. Twenty-two of the crew were drowned, including Captain Cowell. The first mate was saved with three members of the crew.

### NO SUCH REPUBLIC

Republic of Counani Has Never Existed.

### SUPPOSED TO BE IN BRAZIL

British Foreign Office Gets Query Which For Time Causes Stir in Two Nations' Affairs—Existence Indigently Denied.

MANCHESTER, May 30.—The good people of Manchester are in search of a new republic in South America, as the following letter addressed to the British foreign office, shows:

"I am desired by the president of this chamber to ask if you will be so good as to favor me with some information respecting the political status of the Independent Republic of Counani, situated, as I am informed, between Brazil and the three Guianas.

"Members of this chamber have been approached with regard to the formation of a company having its field of operations in Counani. It is announced that, as part of its work, it will enter upon the purchase of goods from Manchester merchants and others.

"This republic is unknown here, but a map has been exhibited in Manchester showing the important town of Manos, situated near the conflux of the Amazon and Rio Negro, as being within its territory. I am, therefore, instructed respectfully to ask you what territory Counani comprises, and whether its existence has been recognized by Great Britain. Any other information you can properly afford will be very welcome to the president.

"The necessity for an authoritative statement on the subject is urgently realized here, as merchants require to know whether, in case of need, they can rely upon British protection. I have, etc.

WALTER SPEAKMAN.

The foreign office replied as follows: "I am directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, asking for information as to the political status of the Independent Republic of Counani, and in reply I am to state that the so-called 'state' is fictitious. Its political existence is indignantly denied by the Brazilian government, within whose territory the cities and provinces claimed by the 'republic' are situated, and it has not been acknowledged by this country, nor, so far as his majesty's government is aware, by any other power."

### OREGON BOY BREAKS RECORD.

NEW YORK, May 30.—A new world's record in the pole vault was established today by A. C. Gilbert of Yale at the track and field meet of the Irish-American athletic club. Gilbert cleared the bar at 12 feet 3 inches. The best previous record, was held by Norman Dole of Oakland, Cal. at 12 feet 1-32-100 inch.

Gilbert was formerly a member of the Multnomah Athletic Club at Portland, and attended the Pacific University at Forest Grove.

### OREGON CATTLE GO EAST.

ARLINGTON, Ore., May 30.—Six hundred and fifty head of cattle were shipped from Gilliam county this week, 475 head going East and the remainder to Portland. The Eastern shipment was of one and two-year-old steers, the Portland shipment consisting of mixed.

About 2000 head of cattle have been sent out of this county during the past two weeks.

### HE PAYS TRIBUTE

Roosevelt Delivers Eulogy at Portsmouth Yesterday.

### NATION DEPENDS ON SOLDIER

Welfare of Country Depends on "Citizen-Soldier" Doing Duty—He Must Have in Him Capacity For Improvement.

OLD POINT COMFORT, May 30.—President Roosevelt today joined with the surviving members of both the blue and gray in paying tribute to the nation's dead. The morning was devoted to a patriotic oration at the naval hospital at Portsmouth and directly afterwards unveiled the handsome monument erected by the army and navy union in memory of their fallen comrades. Portsmouth was elaborately decorated and the exercises were preceded by an imposing parade.

Nearly 40,000 sailors and marines were participating besides the organizations represented, and the navy union, the G. A. R., the United Confederates Union and many civic and patriotic societies. The president spoke to an audience numbering several thousands. He said:

### President's Speech.

This day is hallowed and sacred in our history, for on this day throughout the land we meet to pay homage to the memory of the valiant dead who fell in the great civil war. No other men deserve so well of this country as those to whom we owe it that we now have a country. Moreover, the men to whose valor we owe it that the Union was preserved have left us a country reunited in fact as well as in name. They have left us the memory of the great deeds and the self-devotion alike of the men who wore the blue and of the men who wore the gray in the contest where brother fought brother with equal courage, with equal sincerity of conviction, with equal fidelity to a high ideal, as it was given to each to see that ideal. Moreover, it is a peculiar pleasure to speak today under the auspices of the Army and Navy Union, of the Union which is meant to include the officers and enlisted men of the regular forces of the United States.

### Deserve All Honor.

Exactly as there is no other body of men to whom in the past we have owed so much as to the veterans of the civil war, so there is no other body of men (Continued on page 8)

## AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT IS PLACED UNDER FIRE

House Committee on Appropriations Discovers Absolute  
Disregard of Law, Authorizing Construct-  
ion of Agriculture Building.

### MONEY APPROPRIATED IS SPENT HEEDLESSLY

INVESTIGATION INTO AFFAIRS SHOWS THAT DEPARTMENT USED  
ALL MONEY AVAILABLE IN BUILDING SMALL PART OF  
AGRICULTURE STRUCTURE LEAVING NOTHING  
TO FINISH UP WITH.

WASHINGTON, May 30.—What the members of the house committee on appropriations regard as an absolute disregard of the law authorizing the construction of a new building for the agriculture department, was revealed in the hearings before that committee on the sundry civil bill. In 1903 congress appropriated \$1,500,000 for this building. It was the general understanding that this amount was for the complete building for the accommodation of the entire department.

### Members Astonished.

It was with some astonishment that members learned last week that somebody had ordered the construction of two wings of what may some day be the completed building and the erection of the two wings has practically exhausted the amount appropriated for the complete structure. The wings, when completed will be, according to the testimony, inadequate to house the department force and congress will be called on for another couple of millions to fill in the space between the two wings. Considerable irritation developed during the hearings before the committee and Secretary Wilson, Dr. Galloway and the officials of the department were questioned concerning what is said to have been a direct violation of the laws. F. S. Gardner, mercantile agent of the department of agriculture testified that he knew the limit for the cost of the entire building was \$1,500,000. Gardner also said the Central administration building was not included in the estimate of the cost and that it was not even contemplated, as yet and could not be appropriated for some time.

### Gardner Answers Questions.

When asked why the department did not construct the whole building Gardner answered: "They constructed within the limit of the cost what they needed for the present work and when their future needs come they will have to put up other buildings." It developed further from Gardner's testimony that the administrative work of the department

will continue to be carried on in the present building although congress provided that it be torn down. Further than that Gardner testified the two wings were being constructed for "laboratory purposes."

The secretary of agriculture, according to Gardner is responsible for the plans of the buildings. Gardner also testified that \$31,000 was wasted in order that the site for the building might be moved forty feet. He testified that this was done as the result of a meeting at the White House, where it was declared by the president and secretary and a member of the park commission. Secretary of Agriculture Wilson had prepared a long statement in defense of the present construction. Chairman Tawney asked him how he justified his position and if when the plans were made Wilson was satisfied that \$1,500,000 was not enough, why he didn't inform congress before going ahead.

### Have Wrong Idea.

"You have the wrong idea in your mind there," said Wilson. "we made a plan to exhaust \$1,500,000. We would build in such a way that congress might add to it and we have made no plans, but for our buildings. The secretary went on at length to read a defense of his position. Dr. Galloway and Secretary Wilson both contributed testimony. Gardner gave testimony and insisted there was enough room in the wings to accommodate the administrative force, but both admitted it was not contemplated tearing down the present administrative building as directed by congress. The members of the committee explained to Wilson that they did not suspect his integrity, but thought he did not have authority in law for what he had done. To this suggestion the secretary tartly replied. "You make laws without consulting a soul in the agricultural department, and without regard to its necessities. The man who drafted that law made it come pretty near the needs, and I made the most of it."

All the telegraphic and local news in the Morning Astorian.

## SHONTS TALKS ON THE COMPLETION OF THE CANAL

ATLANTA, May 30.—Theodore P. Shonts, chairman of the Panama canal commission was the guest today of his Atlanta friends and delivered two addresses. The first was at the dedication of a new building at the Alice Scott institute at Decatur, the second before the Chamber of Commerce this evening. Shonts' subject was the "Relation of the South to the Panama Canal." He strongly advocated the lock canal system. Mr. Shonts said between the purchase of supplies and the completion of the canal a gulf is fixed. How wide is this gulf depends on the type of canal selected. He said practically the

question was, how long to wait before entering the period of development which will follow the completion of the canal. He was not surprised that European countries manifested no interest in the completion of the canal. "They do not pay the bills, their commerce does not suffer for the completion of the enterprise." He however was mystified how any American would try to throw obstacles in its way, realizing the benefit of this work at the earliest possible moment. "When we can get a better canal for less money and have the benefit ourselves which will make a heritage for our children."

## MICHAEL DAVITT DIES AFTER NOTABLE CAREER

DUBLIN, May 30.—A notable career closed tonight when after a long and painful illness Michael Davitt died peacefully and painlessly at 12 o'clock in the presence of his oldest son and two daughters and several friends. Mrs.

Davitt is prostrated with illness at the same hospital and is too feeble to leave her room. Death was due to blood poisoning following two operations for necrosis of the jaw bone. Davitt's illness commenced by an insidious attack of toothache which he neglected.